

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
215 North 17th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4978

DM 385-2-4

CEMRO-OP-H

Memorandum
No. 385-2-4

1 October 1990

Safety
PRESSURE VESSELS

1. Purpose. To advise of the potential danger of deadly explosions which may occur in pressure vessels.
2. Applicability. This memorandum applies only to pressure vessels owned and/or operated by the Corps of Engineers. This does not apply to contract specifications on facilities being built by contract for other using agencies.
3. References.
 - a. National Board Inspection Code
 - b. ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code
 - c. EM 385-1-1, Section XXI
4. Requirements. It is directed that all personnel responsible for the operation of such vessels be required to read and comply with the requirements set forth in EM 385-1-1 and the Omaha District, Civil Works Projects, Operations and Maintenance Management Manual, paragraph 8-11. All pressure vessels purchased shall meet the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. Selection and procurement shall be coordinated through the Operations Division, Hydropower Branch.
5. Responsibility. If the information contained in the referenced publications is not sufficient to cover a particular pressure vessel problem, or if at any time there is any doubt whatever as to the safety of vessels, it is directed that equipment be shut down and that an immediate report be made to the Operations Division for necessary guidance.
6. Repairs. Any welding required will be at the direction of the Operations Division, Hydropower Branch.
7. General. As a handy reminder to operating personnel, a "List of Operating Instructions" is furnished as Appendix.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Appendix
List of Operating
Instructions


DONALD E. NEEDHAM
LTC, EN
Deputy Commander

DISTRIBUTION:

A
B

APPENDIX

LIST OF OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Pressure vessels and pneumatic systems can kill if they are incorrectly designed and assembled or if they are damaged, misused or not properly maintained. If you have any reason to believe a pneumatic system is not safe to operate, notify your supervisor immediately!

Safety devices are not to be disconnected, bypassed, altered or otherwise tampered with.

Pressure relief valves are not to be installed unless they are of adequate size, have been sealed to the proper operating pressure and are an ASME approved, lever-operated and automatic-draining type.

Seals on pressure relief valves shall not be broken or removed. Notify the supervisor if, for any reason, the seal is broken or must be broken.

Pressure vessels shall not be operated at a pressure greater than the tank's rated working pressure.

Keep equipment free of oil, grease, dirt, ice, etc.

Only install types of valves that are recommended by the manufacturer for use in compressed air systems and with pressure ratings that equal or exceed that of the tank and system.

Schedule 40 pipe or thicker is to be used for connecting service valves.

Rigid pipe connections shall not be made to a portable air compressor.

Safety lashings shall be used between pneumatic and hose connections.